

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OSLO 03875 101339Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-05 MC-02 EB-07 COME-00 /074 W

----- 071259

R 101234Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2272

INFO OSD WASHDC/ASD-I&L

CSAF WASHDC/SAFIL

F-16 ESPO BRUSSELS BEL

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

CHMAAG COPENHAGEN/AFSEC

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

CHMAAG THE HAGUE/AF SEC

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

CHMAAG BRUSSELS/AF SEC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OSLO 3875

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MMOL, NATO, NO

SUBJ: ADVERSE NEWS STORIES ON F-16 SALES

1. AFTENPOSTEN, ONE OF OSLO'S LEADING NEWSPAPERS, CARRIED AN ARTICLE BY THEIR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT STEIN SAVIK, IN THE SATURDAY, AUG 7TH, EDITION TITLED, "F-16 FIGHTER AIRCRAFT NO SALES SUCCESS FOR USA." (A SIMILAR ARTICLE ALSO APPEARED IN SATURDAY'S INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE WITH A WASHINGTON DATELINE.)

2. THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE MADE BY THE ARTICLE:

A. THAT "REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE PENTAGON" CONCEDE THAT THEY MAY HAVE OVERESTIMATED THE NUMBER OF F-16 FIGHTERS WHICH COULD BE SOLD ON THE WORLD MARKET.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OSLO 03875 101339Z

B. NO OTHER SALES CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN LET IN THE 14 MONTHS SINCE

NORWAY, DENMARK, BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS AGREED TO PURCHASE THE F-16.

C. WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE BEING CONDUCTED WITH THE FOUR COUNTRIES THE AMERICAN DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTED THAT THERE WERE CHANCES OF OVER 2000 AIRCRAFT BEING SOLD TO OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT THAT UP TO NOW ONLY A FEW COUNTRIES HAVE SHOWN ANY DEFINITE INTEREST.

D. THAT IRAN IS THE MOST LIKELY CUSTOMER AND WILL POSSIBLY BUY ABOUT 200 AIRCRAFT.

E. THAT ISRAEL IS INTERESTED, BUT CANNOT UNDERTAKE ANY NEW PURCHASES BEFORE PAYING FOR THE F-15.

F. THAT CANADA IS CONSIDERING A POSSIBLE F-16 PURCHASE, BUT THE CASE HAS COME NO FURTHER THAN THAT, WHILE JAPAN IS SAID TO HAVE DECIDED THAT THE F-16 DOES NOT FIT ITS NEEDS.

G. WEST-GERMANY, SOUTH KOREA, AUSTRALIA, AS WELL AS "SOME LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS" HAD BEEN HOPED FOR PURCHASERS, HOWEVER, NONE HAD COME FORWARD WITH OFFERS TO NEGOTIATE A PURCHASE AGREEMENT UP TO THIS TIME.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: REGARDLESS OF ACCURACY OF ABOVE REPORT IT WILL NOT HELP THE ATTITUDE TOWARD PROJECT IN NORWAY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY CLARIFICATION AND GUIDANCE WE CAN OBTAIN TO HELP US DEAL WITH NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS AND NEWS MEDIA ON THE STORY.
ANDERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OSLO03875
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760307-0630
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760869/aaaachzb.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ADVERSE NEWS STORIES ON F-16 SALES
TAGS: MMOL, MASS, NO, US, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006